

MR. CLEVELAND RETURNS.

MET AT THE PIER AS USUAL BY THE
EVER-FAITHFUL THURBER.

HE BRINGS BACK LOTS OF GAME AND A GOOL
NORTH CAROLINA COLOR—APPARENTLY IN

THE PARTY IN DANGER

Washington, Dec. 16.—President Cleveland and his shooting companions returned to Washington to-day at 2:30 p. m. on the lighthouse tender Maple, laden with ducks, and a deep brown color. At the wharf there was the same little crowd of loungers, the same wagon to carry away the slaughtered game, the same Mr. Thurber summoned to meet the President by telephone message from the Indian Head Private Ground, and the same Sinclair, the White House steward.

There is only one thing to mark a difference between Mr. Cleveland's return to-day and on former occasions—and that was in the weather. Heretofore the Presidential voyagers have

landed at the wharf in the midst of falling snow or wind at "half a gale." Today was warm and pleasant, and the balmy atmosphere must have seemed strange to the tanned-faced hunters after their unpleasant experiences in the Hatteras storm of last week.

The telephone message sent by the President from Indian Head said that the Maple would arrive at her wharf here at 2 o'clock. Some time before that hour Sir Sinclair and one of the White House servants drove down to the wharf in a covered wagon intended for baggage and game. A little later came Mrs. O'Reilly, the wife of Major R. M. O'Reilly, the army surgeon who has attended the President on his shooting trips to North Carolina waters.

Owing to the presence of several vessels at the ice wharf where the Maple usually ties up

the little tender could not land her passengers there, and was obliged to run in at the pier of the Riverview excursion boats. At 2:20 o'clock

He was sighted coming around a bend in the river, and Private Secretary Thurber, who had arrived about half an hour previously in the President's coupé, waited on the end of the lower wharf, unconscious that the landing would be made some hundred yards below. But the quick eyes of the score or more of newshogs, boot-blacks and wharf loungers who had surmised from the presence of the White House coupé that Mr. Cleveland was near at hand, and had gathered on the end of the wharf, saw that the Maple was turning in to the River, and they made a rush down the street in that direction. Mr. Thurber followed a crowd over the rough cobblestones to the wharf, and the next moment a young gatekeeper was at first inclined to refuse the Private Secretary as a newspaper man and to refuse to admit him, but Mr. Thurber finally managed to pass the portals of exclusiveness through the efforts of Commandeur Benjamin P. Lambertson, of the Navy, light-

house inspector for this district. He and Commander George F. E. White, the naval secretary of the Lighthouse Board, were the other companions of the President on his shooting trip. Paul Lamberton, Commander Lamberton's son, was with Mr. Thurber.

They saw Mr. Thurber grasp the President's hand and inform him that everybody at the White House was well. The President wore a silk hat and a beaver overcoat. He appeared to

be in excellent health. For ten minutes or so the President and his friends and Captain French, of the Maple, chatted on the wharf and then the party marched to the gate with Mr. Cleveland and Mr. Thurber in the lead. Dr. O'Reilly drove away with his wife. Commander Wilde, Commander Lamberton and his son took the street-cars and the President and Mr. Thurber en-

After the couple and were whirled on to the White House.

Meanwhile Sinclair, his assistant and the sailors of the Maple were assisting to the White House wagon the President's guns and traps and the company of the President's staff. Although there were sixty ducks, thirty-two partridges, five geese and four brant. There were no swans in the Presidential quiver. The only swan of these birds is proverbial. Last year, winter Mr. Cleveland shot several of them, and one of them in the general distribution fell to the lot of Private Secretary. The President's son had a chance to shoot a swan. When Mr. Cleveland asked a few days later, "Haven't been able to taste it yet," Mr. Thurber replied, "Why?" asked the President. "Well, sir, replied the son, "I haven't been able to shoot one for three whole days." "I've been able to get my teeth through one of its celestial tendons."

With this experience to guide them the President decided this year to let the swans remain in the classical language of the Etymological grammar, a "rara avis in terra." The President and his companions kept a private party of swans. The swans were very well fed.

A member of the shooting party said this evening that no alarm need have been felt for the safety of the President and his companions during the terrific storm that raged at Cape Hatteras while they were in that region. The vessel, which was in the Cape channel, was transferred from the Maple at Norfolk, was well sheltered during the gale in the Cape channel. She did not drag her anchors, and everybody had good time, he said. The trip in the Maple from Norfolk to Washington was without noticeable incident.

Philadelphia, Dec. 15.—National Democratic Chairman Harrity, when questioned about the story that he favored New-York as the place of meeting for the next National Convention, had this to say: "I have no personal or political choice as to a convention city. I have no objection to New-York, but I have no objection to any other city selected that would be reasonably convenient of access to the delegates and others who will attend, and which by reason of its hotel accommodations would be able to provide the most comfort of those present."

Speaking of the time of the convention he said: "I have no objection to the convention being held at a convention later than the latter part of June or the beginning of July, although some may contend for the latter date. I think it would be much more desirable in the first week of July it would mean a nominal campaign of four months and an actual campaign of two months."

than within one month. The first month or six weeks of the campaign would be necessarily devoted to preliminary work in which the general public would take little or no interest."

Mr. Harrity declined to express an opinion as to the Collins resolution limiting the number of persons in the convention hall to delegates, alternates, members of the National Committee and members of the press. It is generally understood, however, that he personally favors making accommodations for a reasonable number of visitors, and that he is convinced that there is no reason to deviate from

MANY MERCHANTS VICTIMIZED.

Altoona, Penn., Dec. 15.—A swindler who has been victimizing merchants in many cities throughout the State was arrested at Irwin and brought here last night.

Here he was presenting checks drawn in favor of James Black, on the German National Bank of Pittsburgh. The checks were usually for \$20 or \$25. After leaving this city Black or George Purser, as he has been often known, would go to a number of merchants in Lancaster and other places, and cash the checks. At Lancaster where he successfully worked the swindle, many Pittsburgh merchants were taken in by the sharper before he came East.

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